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REMARKS

Initially, Applicant would like to inform the Examiner that the undersigned attorney has taken over prosecution of the subject application and that a revocation of power of attorney and a new power of attorney will be submitted shortly. Thus, with regard to this Amendment, the undersigned attorney is acting under 37 CFR §1.34.

Prior to this Amendment, claims 1-20 were pending in the application. In this Amendment, claims 1-20 are canceled and new claims 21-36 are added. New claims 21-36 are fully supported by the specification. Reconsideration of the application in its current format is hereby requested.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 9, 10, 12, and 14-20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 2002/0198618 to Madden et al. In addition, the Examiner rejected claims 5-8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious in view of the Madden et al. application.

Applicant submits that new claims 21-36 are patentable over the Madden et al. applications and the other cited art.

The Madden et al. application is directed to an automotive assembly line control system for use in manufacturing automobiles. The assembly line control system has the ability to monitor and direct vehicles through various stages of assembly and test. In contrast, the present claims of the subject application are directed to methods for manufacturing an electrical device. Moreover, the Madden et al. application fails to even remotely suggest a number of steps recited in the claims of the subject application. For example, the Madden et al. patent fails to suggest using stored design data to generate control data for controlling a manufacturing machine. In this regard, it is noted that the provision of the Madden et al. application cited by the Examiner as showing the transmittal of control data (i.e., paragraph [0088]) merely discloses changing the build instructions for a vehicle, i.e., changing the vehicle specification. The paragraph does not disclose transmitting, let alone generating, control data for controlling a device that manufactures the vehicle.

Based on the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application

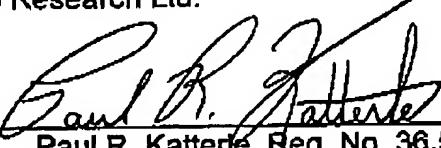
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is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 050877.

Respectfully submitted,

ABB Research Ltd.

By: 
Paul R. Katterle, Reg. No. 36,563

August 1, 2005
c/o ABB Inc.
29801 Euclid Avenue-4U6
Wickliffe, Ohio 44092-2530
(440) 585-7968